Message Text

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66

ACTION SIL-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 SS-15 AGR-05

NSC-05 L-02 H-01 SP-02 /070 W

----- 100936

R 281736Z FEB 75

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8388

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMMBASSY LONDON 804

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, EAGR, ETRD, ICFTU

SUBJECT: UNITED FARM WORKER REPRESENTATIVE CONTINUES TO ALLEGE USG INTERFERENCE IN TEAMSTER-FARM WORKER DISPUTE

1. SUMMARY. ON FEBRUARY 27 THE MISSION LABOR ATTACHE WAS CONTACTED BY VICTOR PESTOFF, THE UNITED FARM WORKERS (UFW) REPRESENTATIVE IN SWEDEN, WHO STATED THAT THE USG, THROUGH THE AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE AT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN STOCKHOLM HAS OPENLY INTERVENED IN THE GRAPE AND LETTUCE WORKER DISPUTE BETWEEN THE TEAMSTERS UNION AND THE UFW. PESTOFF CHARGES THAT EMBASSY STOCKHOLM HAS ENCOURAGED AND FACILITATED THE TEAMSTER CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE BOYCOTT. HE SAID THAT HE CAN APPRECIATE USG INTEREST IN PROMOTING US EXPORTS, BUT THAT THE LETTUCE BOYCOTT IS AN EXTENSION OF AN INTERNAL AMERICAN LABOR DISPUTE AND THAT EMBASSY INTERVENTION IS THEREFORE UNWARRANTED.

2. PESTOFF, WHO WILL SOON JOIN THE GENEVA STAFF OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL WORKERS FEDERATION

(IFPAAW) ALSO SAID THAT UFW LEADER CESAR CHAVEZ IN ADDITION TO HAVING SENT LETTERS TO SEVERAL EMBASSIES (SEE REFTEL) IS PURSUING THIS MATTER WITH THE US CONGRESS AND THAT IFPAAW IS CONTEMPLATING ACTION PROTESTING USG INTERVENTION.

3. PESTOFF, WHO IS NOW IN LONDON, WAS IN BRUSSELS TO "SHORE UP" ICFTU SUPPORT FOR THE BOYCOTT. MYERSON

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: INTERVENTION, LABOR UNIONS, LABOR DISPUTES

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